

E 'Specially' DECS

A weekly email update from the Division of Exceptional Children Services to Directors of Special Education on current issues, information and events.

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Question of the Week:

My students are in my resource classroom approximately 2 to 3 hours per day. My classroom walls have a lot of teaching tools that I have taught to my students and that they use on a daily basis. My question is, can I have all of my special education students who require the modifications of reader and/or scribe in the same room during CATS testing if they each have a different test form?

My students are very comfortable with me and will perform to a higher degree if they are with a proctor with whom they have a relationship. I am very concerned about my students and want to do what is best for each of them.

Answer: (From Phyllis Shuttleworth, Office of Assessment and Accountability
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The Kentucky Administrative Regulations (703 KAR 5:080) state the following:

"The principal, building assessment coordinator and anyone assisting with administration to students in special populations shall ensure that any accommodations or modifications provided shall be consistent with the student's evaluation data, IEP, 504, or LEP Plan and the routine delivery of instructional services. The use of these accommodations or modifications for the assessment shall not inappropriately interfere with or influence the administration of the assessment to other students."

This means that if you are reading to one student you cannot disturb another student. Or if a student needs a scribe and will be telling answers out loud to the scribe it cannot be done where other students can hear the answers given. If you can provide for the accommodations in the same room and not allow each student to hear what else is going on with other students, then you are OK to do so. If not, they must be in another room or environment

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The Question of the Week will be an on-going feature of E 'Specially' DECS.

If you have a special education question that you believe would be of general interest to other Directors of Special Education, email your suggestion to Sammie Lambert at slambert@kde.state.ky.us

Contact Information for E 'Specially' DECS

- Sammie Lambert at slambert@kde.state.ky.us for information on newsletter content.

- Chris Thacker at 502 564-4738 for technical difficulties in receiving E 'Specially' DECS.

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Forwarding of E 'Specially' DECS is not only allowed, it is encouraged.
Please send to staff in your district who may be able to benefit from
this information.